By Express Mail # EL513860038US · December 30, 1999

20. A continuous casting installation as defined in claim 14, and further comprising means for cooling the transitional parts.

In the Abstract:

Please cancel the present abstract and insert the following therefore:

--A process for producing thin slabs and a continuous casting installation for this purpose, having a laterally adjustable mold into which an immersion nozzle protrudes, and in which there is opposite a larger crowned cross-section on the charging side a cross-section on the strand outlet side which is small and identically crowned in the central region. The installation having pairs of supporting and guiding rollers which follow the mold and have a caliber adapted to the emerging crowned strand. The immersion nozzle has a spade-shaped mouth with a maximum thickness corresponding to d = 0.3 to  $0.5 \times D_F$ , where  $D_E$  is the distance between the mold broad faces in the charging region. The broad-face parts have, at least in the shadow region of the immersion nozzle, central parts which are arranged parallel to one another according to their contour lines. The broad-face plates are designed at least in the adjusting region of the narrow-face plates as planar side surfaces. The planar side surfaces are arranged so that they move conically toward each other in the direction of the narrow faces. The planarsurface central plate is connected to the planar-surface side surfaces by transitional parts. The transitional parts taper toward each other in the form of a wedge and the wedge tip ends at a distance (a), measured from the upper edge of the mold, with a = 0.5 to  $0.8 \times L$ , where L = the length of the mold. The supporting and guiding rollers have a contour which corresponds to the

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planar-surface central plate and the planar side plates of the mold broad faces in the region of the mouth of the mold.

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A continuous casting installation for producing thin slabs includes a laterally adjustable mold in which an immersion nozzle protrudes. In the mold there is opposite a larger crowned cross section on the charging side a cross section on the strand outlet side which is small and identically crowned in the central region. The installation further has pairs of supporting and guiding rollers which follow the mold and have a caliber adapted to the emerging crowned strand. The broad-face parts have planar-surface central parts which are arranged parallel to one another along their widths and taper toward one another in the casting direction of the strand. The broadface parts also have planar side surfaces arranged so that they taper conically toward each other in the direction of the narrow faces. The planar-surface central plate is connected to the planar-surface side surfaces by transitional parts. The transitional parts taper toward each other in the form of a wedge and the wedge tip ends at a distance (a), measured from the upper edge of the mold, with  $a\!=\!0.5$  to 0.8 x L, where L= the length of the mold. The supporting and guiding rollers have a contour which corresponds to the planar-surface central plate and the planar side plates of the mold broad faces in the region of the mouth of the mold.